The City of Whitehorse

PRESS RELEASE

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YUKON ARCTIC ULTRA DUE TO RACE IN COLD TEMPERATURES

**Yukon Arctic Ultra sets off on the Yukon Quest Trail,
10:30 Saturday the 9th of February, from Whitehorse,
as the Yukon Quest starts in Fairbanks, Alaska**

Thirty endurance athletes will set out in extreme temperatures along the Yukon Quest Dog sled trail, from Whitehorse to Pelly, this Saturday, in the Yukon Arctic Ultra. Athletes can race by foot, bike or skijor.

Athletes have chosen to do the 100 mile race that will go from Whitehorse to Braeburn, or a 300 mile race that goes on to Pelly Farms and then leaves the trail to go back by road to Pelly Crossing. Competitors will brave conditions that will test their personal endurance and many of them have travelled a long way to do just that.

There are plenty of experienced local co-ordinators on this race: Mike and Jessica Simon are in charge of checkpoints along the way, Shelley Gellatly is co-ordinating athletes and Carolynne Fudja is the vet assigned to the race.

Media from across the world are here: Geo magazine, the Daily Telegraph from England and the "Angry Planet" TV show will all cover the start of the race

Check out www.yukonarcticultra.de for lots of information. Robert Pollhammer is the event organiser and available for interviews. Robert can be reached at the "High Country Inn" 667-4471.

Two athlete bios to follow "by hand":

Sam Thompson (50 Marathons in 50 States in 50 days)
Diane Van Deren (Finalist for the 2005 "Outdoor Person of the Year" against Lance Armstrong)

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